

Ludlow Grade School
245 S. Orange St., P.O. Box 130
Ludlow, Illinois 60949
Ph. 217-396-5261
"... a small school that makes a big difference."

To: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC
Office of the Secretary, 445 12th St., SW, Washington, DC 20554

From: Sherry Janowski, Technology Coordinator,
Ludlow Grade School, 245 S. Orange, Ludlow, IL 60949
ph: 217-396-5261; e-mail: janowskisl@ludlow.k12.il.us

Re: CC Docket No. 02-6; Appeal/**Request for Waiver** to E-Rate Form 471 Window deadline of 3-14-13

Date: 3-20-13 (URGENT)

Please consider this a request for a waiver of the Form 471 window filing deadline of March 14, 2013. A variety of factors have contributed to extenuating circumstances resulting in our missing the window.

To begin with, our internet service provider, PrairieNet, was recently part of an acquisition merger by T6 Broadband of Springfield, Illinois. In awaiting revised contract and SPIN information we were forced to postpone our planned early 471 filing date, eventually missing the window altogether.

We are one of the few very small schools remaining in the central Illinois area. As such, not only do we depend on E-rate funding to finance our phone and internet services, but as state and other federal funding continues to dwindle, our faculty and staff are forced to wear a variety of hats to keep our nearly 100% low-income school functioning. My title of Technology Coordinator is actually one small part of my position at Ludlow Grade School, where I also coordinate music and fine arts activities and, most importantly, take on the daily role of teaching a combined 3rd and 4th grade classroom. My teaching duties required me to attend the Illinois Reading Conference which occurred the same week as closure of the form 471 filing window. Although I had hoped to be able to complete the filing process while away, I was subsequently not available to finish pursuing the required information from our provider. Office/administrative staff were also either not available or were unable to follow up during my absence.

Again, please consider our request to waive the form 471 window filing deadline due to the above circumstances, so as to avoid undue hardship for our low-income school. I can be reached by phone or e-mail as indicated above. Thank you in advance for your consideration.